GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1718
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2017
Medical Visa
Adhikari Shri Sisir Kumar

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has restricted medical visas to foreign patients;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the foreign patients who visited during the last five years for treatment in India; and

(d) the impact of this decision of the Government on the foreign patients and the reaction of the foreign countries in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) & (b) The Government has not put any restrictions on Medical visas for foreign patients. The numbers are constantly increasing, as can be seen in the table below. Indian Missions and Posts abroad process Medical visas on priority basis. Requests for Medical visas for urgent medical cases are expeditiously processed and such visas are issued on the same day. However, in case of Pakistan, we ask for recommendation letter from Advisor to the Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs, to process genuine and urgent cases.

(c) Details of the Medical visas issued to foreign patients during the last five years are as follows:

S. No. Year Total number of Medical visas issued
1. 2012 38071
2. 2013 56008
3. 2014 66254
4. 2015 122121
5. 2016 177972
6. 2017 (till date) 105163

(d) The Government's visa policy for medical visa has been appreciated by the applicants for medical visa and foreign governments.